

REMARKS

This is a divisional of Serial No. 09/973,957, filed October 11, 2001, which is a CIP of Serial No. 09/714,814, filed November 17, 2000, the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

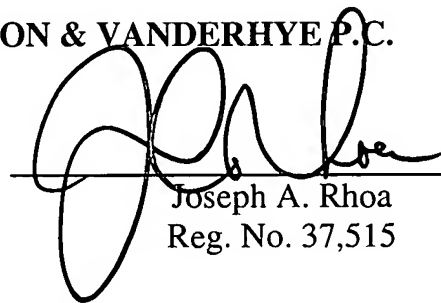
Claims 9-15 are now pending. There should be no double-patenting issue in view of the Restriction Requirement dated July 3, 2003 in the parent case. Claim 9 is believed to be in condition of allowance, for the reasons set forth in the "Remarks" section of the Amendment filed June 10, 2003 in the parent case.

If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph A. Rhoa', is written over a horizontal line.

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